

Question for written answer E-008391/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - UN Security Council resolution on Western Sahara

The resolution whereby the Security Council again ignored Sahrawi petitions for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (Minurso) to have competences in relation to human rights sparked mass demonstrations in the main cities of the non-autonomous territory of Western Sahara. The Moroccan police and army violently suppressed the demonstrators, who took to the streets to demand the holding of the referendum on self-determination that the UN has been postponing since 1992. Dozens of Sahrawis were arrested during the protests and in police raids because of their activities in favour of human rights and of the UN referendum being held.

1. Does the VP/HR not believe that the frustration generated by the Sahrawi people's defencelessness in the face of human-rights violations and the stagnation of the UN peace plan constitutes a new threat to the stability of the EU's southern border?
2. Will the VP/HR be taking steps at the UN to have Minurso hold the referendum on self-determination, which was the reason for its deployment in this territory awaiting decolonisation, and take on competences in relation to human rights?